

Dr. Robert D. Braun serves as the David and Andrew Lewis Professor of Space Technology at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He is also the founding director of the Georgia Tech Center for Space Technology and Research. He has been a member of the Georgia Tech faculty since 2003 and leads an active research and educational program focused on the design of advanced flight systems and technologies for planetary exploration. He previously served as a leader and senior manager for several engineering organizations at NASA. In 2010-2011, he served as the first NASA Chief Technologist in more than a decade. In this capacity, he was the senior Agency executive for technology and innovation policy and programs and was responsible for creating the NASA Space Technology programs. From 1989 to 2003, he was a member of the technical staff of the NASA Langley Research Center. In 2012, Dr. Braun co-founded Terminal Velocity Aerospace, LLC, a small business focused on developing a suite of re-entry devices to improve orbital debris hazard prediction and promote space utilization. Dr. Braun presently serves on Advisory Boards for the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology, Planet Labs Inc., and the Planetary Society. He served as a member of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board from 2012-2014. He received a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from Penn State, M.S. in Astronautics from the George Washington University, and Ph.D. in Aeronautics and Astronautics from Stanford University. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, Vice Chair of the NRC Space Studies Board, an AIAA Fellow, and the Editor-in-Chief of the *AIAA Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*. He is the author or co-author of over 275 technical publications in the fields of atmospheric flight dynamics, planetary exploration, multidisciplinary design optimization, and systems engineering. He lives on a small farm in Newnan, Georgia with his wife Karen and is the proud father of Zack, Allie and Jessica Braun.